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TRIANGLE SHOPPING CENTER became a reality with the signing of a 50-year lease between Torrance and Jefferson, Inc., developers of the shopping center. Shown above after lease-signing ceremony are James Bower, Jefferson, Inc., vice-president; City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier; Mayor Albert Isen, and Albert Leavitt, Jefferson, Inc. president.

## New Shopping Area Underway

Officials of the Torrance Triangle Shopping Center this week began preparing final construction plans for the \$4,000,000 shopping area after signing a 50-year lease with the City of Torrance.

Mayor Albert Isen signed the lease, approved by the city council last week, and brought an end to five years of legal red tape that had prevented commercial development of the city-owned land.

When the center is completed within four years, the city will gain an estimated \$250,000 in rental charges and sales tax revenues.

Albert Levitt and James S. Bower, president and vice president of Jefferson, Inc., developers of the shopping center, said that construction of the first portion of the center may begin within six months. Under the terms of the lease, the first portion of improvements amounting to \$250,000 must be completed within 18 months.

The property, a tract of 36 acres on the northeast corner of Pacific Coast hwy. and Crenshaw hwy., was originally leased by Store Properties, Inc. The sudden death of Store Properties owner, Samuel Genis, halted development of the tract.

Jefferson, Inc. purchased the leasehold estate and has been negotiating with city officials and attempting to clear up the year.

The property was originally owned by the federal government and was deeded to the city as part of the Municipal airport. The government imposed restrictions preventing commercial development of the property, but the restrictions were modified through the efforts of City Attorney Stanley Remelmeier.

## NATIONAL SUPPLY MAY MERGE WITH ARMCO STEEL CO.

Merger of National Supply Co. with Armco Steel Co., the nation's eighth largest steel producer, was to be placed before stockholders of both corporations, it was announced this week.

Directors of both companies made the announcement after lengthy discussions. They said they agreed "in principal" on terms of the merger, but required approval of stockholders before a final contract could be worked out.

The tentative agreement provides that National Supply stockholders receive 85 hundredths of a share of Armco common stock for each share of National Supply common stock.

## Broadway Store Breaks Ground Today

Ceremonies to mark the start of construction of the Broadway-Hale Department Store, the major unit in the \$40,000,000 Del Amo Shopping Center will take place today.

Officials of the Broadway-Hale store, representatives of Del Amo Estates Co., and city officials will take part in the formal groundbreaking ceremony, at 4 p.m.

In two years, when construction of the shopping center is expected to be completed, the center will have three major department stores, including Sears; a supermarket, banks, restaurants and 50 different small shops and stores. Parking space for 7000 cars will surround the area.

## Levy Elected to Heart Ass'n Board

Six residents of the South Bay area of Los Angeles county have been elected to the board of directors of the Los Angeles County Heart association, it was announced this week by W. Thomas Craig, board chairman.

Elected were Sam Levy of Torrance, Charles H. Bayly of West Palms Verdes, R. F. Ingold of Leimert Park, Dr. Albert A. Kattus of Westchester, Dr. Frederick Ewens of Manhattan Beach and Dr. Roger J. Aubuchon of San Pedro.

"It is the desire of the Heart association to guarantee that all communities in the county which support the fight against heart disease have a voice in this program."

## City Police Officers Club Donates \$1000 to Float

Torrance's entry in the Pasadena Tournament of Roses Parade New Years Day got a real assist with the announcement that the Torrance Police Officers Club had donated \$1000 to the sponsoring Chamber of Commerce.

In making the presentation, Chief Percy G. Bennett said his group was proud to be a part of the "grass-roots" campaign to have Torrance properly represented in the New Years Day Classic.

President of the "most civic-minded Police Department in the country" is Donald Hartel. Treasurer Robert Stone is a mighty important man also—he signs the checks.

The city's float will not be lacking in feminine pulchritude,

## Youth Band Captivates 4000 Music Educators

Seventy-two youth band members were due to return to Torrance Sunday night to start up another round of applause.

A hastily formed welcoming committee, composed of members of the Torrance Area Junior Band, and families of youth band members were to flock to International Airport Sunday when the special plane bringing band members from Chicago was due to arrive at 7:30 p.m.

The band had brought 4000 music educators from all over the nation to their feet twice Thursday night after their performance before the Midwest Band Clinic in Chicago.

In a telegram to W. E. Bowen, president of the Torrance Area Youth Band, Mrs. Virginia Henderson, a chaperone who accompanied the band, reported:

"The band was out of this world tonight. They received a beautiful plaque, tremendous applause and two standing ovations. There were 4000 people in the audience. Everything is wonderful. Jim Van Dyck and the kids were great."

Bowen and a Citizens Committee headed by Postmaster Clara Conners, were elated at the success of the band. "The city has gained and will gain more from the youth band, just as the boys and girls will gain from this trip," Bowen said.

## WALTERIA STORM DRAIN PROJECT BEGINS SOON

Bids for construction of the \$338,700 Walteria Sump Storm Drain will be opened January 10, Burton W. Chace, Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, announced this week after approval of plans and specifications of the long-awaited project.

Within seven months after the contract is awarded, all work on the drain is to be completed, Chace added.

Plans call for the drain to join the previously completed Lomita Boulevard Storm Drain at the intersection of 247 st. and Crenshaw hwy. It runs west in 247 ft. about 2000 feet, continues west in an easement to Madison st. where it turns north to 236 st. The drain follows 236 west for about 65 feet to its termination, Chace said.

## Lomita C of C Elects Gibson

B. Kenneth Gibson was appointed Secretary-Manager of the Lomita Chamber of Commerce at a meeting last week of the new and old Board of Directors.

Gibson was officially selected to fill the position formerly held by Mrs. Joan La Mano, whose resignation was accepted with regret by the board.

Before coming to Lomita 12 years ago, Gibson worked in the San Pedro Post Office until his retirement from that service.

He is a past commander of the V.F.W. which he helped reorganize in San Pedro and organizer and first commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Gibson was born in Walla Walla, Washington. A veteran of World War I, he served with the 35th Division as an ambulance driver.

Gibson was presented to the chamber's directors by Dr. Warren H. Low, new president.

according to Chairman George A. Bradford of the chamber.

Riding, or rather adorning, the float will be two of Torrance's prettiest young ladies—beauteous Sharon Starns, 18 year old "Miss Torrance", and pert Sharon Smith who is "Miss Torrance Chamber of Commerce".

The two misses will be dressed in space suits and will be riding on a cloud that will be supporting a giant rocket ship. Theme of the Torrance entry will be "Rocket-Ship to the Moon" in keeping with the Tournament Theme of "Daydream in Flowers".

Designer and builder of the float is Mrs. Isabella Coleman, who has won 34 sweepstakes awards in the classic.



CITY AND CHURCH OFFICIALS joined in the groundbreaking ceremonies for the Little Company of Mary Hospital last week. Shown above are: Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas O'Dwyer of the Los Angeles Archdiocese, extreme left;

Mother M. Genevieve and Robert Plomert, chairman of the hospital fund raising committee, share the shovel. Behind them is Councilman Willys Blount. At extreme right are Councilmen Victor Benstead and Robert Jahn.

## Start Building of 146-Bed Company of Mary Hospital

Construction of the \$2,728,000 Little Company of Mary Catholic Hospital in Torrance began last week after formal groundbreaking ceremonies attended by close to 100 church and city dignitaries.

Steed Brothers Building Co. will move heavy equipment to the site at Torrance blvd. and Earl st. on January 2 and expects to complete the hospital in early 1959.

Attending the groundbreaking ceremony Thursday afternoon were city officials, members of

the committee which raised funds for the hospital and Catholic officials. The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Thomas J. O'Dwyer, director of the department of health and hospitals of the Los Angeles Archdiocese, blessed the site.

Taking turns in spading up the soil were R. I. Plomert, chairman of the advisory committee that conducted a year-long fund drive; Mother M. Genevieve, of the "Blue Nuns," Mother M. Lucy, hospital treasurer, Mayor Albert Isen and councilmen.

Plomert announced that construction plans called for additional space to house 21 more beds. He said \$90,000 to cover the cost of the added construction would be raised by the advisory committee.

With the addition, the hospital will contain 146 beds. Originally, it had been planned as a 100-bed hospital but revisions were made twice to keep pace with the city's growing population.

Fred Mill will continue to serve as chairman of the finance committee. Other officers who will direct the new fund raising drive are Sam Levy, general chairman; Glen Koger, vice-chairman; and George Post, treasurer, it was announced by George Schneider, secretary of the advisory group.

## Fire Doused By Employees

Quick action by employes at a local plant averted a serious fire last week, according to Torrance Fire Marshal Robert R. Lucas.

The fire occurred Wednesday at Warren Southwest Inc., a telephone pole creosoting plant. Sparks from a welder's torch ignited some of the residue in one of three large creosoting tanks.

Lucas said the blaze was under control by the time the firemen arrived. Damage was negligible.

## 'All I Want for Christmas Is My Left-Foot Shoe'

Some little Torrance child is going to have a cold Christmas if he or she doesn't drop into the Torrance Chamber of Commerce Office and pick up a little white shoe which was found on El Prado last week.

The shoe is a baby's white oxford, size 4, and is for the left foot.

The owner, or her mother, can reclaim the shoe by coming to the Chamber Office, 1345 El Prado.

## Seek Curb On Holiday Accidents

Five drivers who did their Christmas drinking early were arrested and jailed by Torrance police in the first two days of an intensified effort to curb holiday accidents.

The crackdown by Torrance police was the start of the department's campaign to remove drunken drivers from the road and keep the streets safe for thousands of sober holiday drivers.

Four of the five drivers arrested by police Friday and Saturday were involved in minor traffic accidents. They were:

Chester C. Gaines, 26, of 20720 S. Hampshire;

Max Baca, Jr., of 1825 Redondo Beach blvd.;

Charles Alderette, 25, of 23750 Pennsylvania ave.;

Dillard Brown, of Long Beach; and

Joseph Bernardino, 40, of Los Angeles.

Bernardino was arrested at Carson and Western avenues after he piled into a ditch. Police found an empty half-pint bottle of vodka on the floor beneath Bernardino's legs, then counted 43 empty bottles piled in the right corner beneath the front seat.

In the glove compartment they found three other empty bottles and when they opened the trunk of the car they uncovered a cache of approximately 150 empty bottles. Bernardino told police he had saved every bottle he'd purchased during the year. He added: "I only had three beers in San Pedro."

Brown was jailed after police chased him for failing to make a boulevard stop at Anza and Torrance blvds.

Alderette also was apprehended for failing to make a boulevard stop at Carson and Crenshaw.

Baca was taken to jail after he struck the rear of a car operated by Richard Miller, 29, of 2612 Cabrillo ave., at Torrance blvd. and Western ave.

Gaines was stopped by police who were investigating another accident and were directing traffic around the wreck. Police officers L. Brown and T. Arnold noted the license number on Gaines' car and recognized it as one sought by Gardena police in a hit and run accident earlier in the evening.

The accident on 190 st. involved Albert Cobb, 44, of 18903 Cordary ave., whose car left the road and struck a pole in the heavy fog.

## North High Wins Five Speech Prizes

North High School debate students participated in a 15-school open speech and debate tournament at Alhambra High School last week and five students won silver certificates.

Bruce Harle and Charles Dougherty won one debate and lost two in the first day of the tournament.

In individual events the next day, a total of 29 North High students, consisting of 15 Freshmen, 10 Sophomores, three Juniors and one Senior participated.

Winning silver certificates were Rose Marie Simmons and Rickie Baumgarten in Dramatic Interpretation and Harle in Impromptu. Mason Wolpert and Carolyn Lunden won two debates and lost one receiving a silver certificate award for their efforts.

Other students making the trip were Ronnie Evans, Carolyn Lunden, Al Becker, Ken Spooner, Diane Chambers, Roberta Teshegen, Nancy Chanda, Kathy Schade, Doris Laney, Mary Ahee, Clinty Towers, Barbara Guilliano, Arthur Neuman, Bill Geller, Murlene Scott, Margaret Whittaker, Judy McCullough, Vicki Garrard, Harold Spivack, Wendell McCorrey, Glen Sherwood and Mason Wolpert. Guy Old and L. R. Mushrush attended the tournament as sponsors.

## Town Topics

A HOLIDAY BREAK will be taken by the city council this week. Instead of meeting Tuesday evening which falls on Christmas Eve, the council decided to postpone its next session until Monday, December 30 at 5:30 p.m.

CHRISTMAS SPIRIT is not in the breast of groups of despoilers who've been going around town stealing Christmas tree lights and decorations. At least six such thefts were reported by residents. Police believe juveniles are responsible for the thefts, but no matter how old they are, the thieves are inconsiderate, anti-social and joy-killers.

A CALL FOR HELP was issued by members of Torrance garden clubs decorating the city's Rose Parade float. The Chamber of Commerce issued the appeal on request of garden club members, and volunteers can call the chamber office for more information.

BASEBALL FANS in Torrance have come up with the idea of inviting the ex-Brooklyn Dodger to consider the Walteria Lake Basin as the site of its ball park. They say that since the county is going to spend \$338,700 for a sump storm drain system the area will be a perfect place for a sports arena. They point out, too, that many open areas around the Municipal airport would provide plenty of parking space, and that the airport itself can be used by the Dodgers and visiting teams. Anybody for forming a Bring-The-Dodgers-to-Torrance Committee?

## Democratic Officers

John E. Mulvihill was elected president of the North Torrance Democratic Club at a recent meeting. Other officers for the year are John Anagnostis, vice president; Ruth Reeves, secretary; Jack White, treasurer.